

## **FIRE PROTECTION POLICY BOARD**

### **Regular Meeting February 22, 2006 General Administration Building Olympia, WA**

**Board Members Present:** Sharon Colby, Jennifer Gregerson, Mark Kahley, Jim Broman, Dean Hosni and Joe Coultman and Wayne Wienholz

**Board Members Absent:** Buck Lane and TJ Nedrow

**WSP Staff Present:** Mike Matlick, Anjela Foster, Chuck King, Ellen Tombleson and WSP Deputy Chief Paul Beckley

**Guests Present:** Chief Dave LaFave - WA State Fire Defense Committee

#### **OPENING:**

Sharon opened the meeting with introductions at approximately 9:10

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion:** Jim Broman moved and Mark Kahley seconded to approve the agenda, including the changes of moving the State Fire Defense Committee Report and discussion on the State Fire Marshal Qualification to the start of the agenda

***Motion passes. Unanimous.***

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion:** Jim Broman moved and Jennifer Gregerson seconded to approve the following minutes:

November 30, 2005 (Regular Meeting)  
January 11, 2006 (Special Meeting)  
January 25, 2006 (Work Session)

***Motion passes. Unanimous.***

## **REPORTS**

**State Fire Defense Committee** ~ Chief Dave LaFave advised that he would be presenting the State Fire Defense Committee report on behalf of Chair Bill Walkup, and also advised that he or Bill will plan to attend the FPPB meetings in the future to present their report in person.

Dave provided an overview of the activities of the SFDC and advised that their efforts have been primarily focused on the development of the 2006 Business Plan, which has now been developed and will be edited for final approval. Dave further advised that their focus will remain on Goal #4 – Blue Print for Success, which has an emphasis on standards, qualifications and succession planning.

Dave also provided an overview of SB 6543 which deals with funding for regional and state EMD support.

In discussion on NIMS implementation, Deputy Chief Paul Beckley advised that the WSP is responsible for training all state agencies, and EMD will be training all local agencies.

Deputy Chief Beckley also advised that WASPC is coordinating the development of the Law Enforcement Mobilization Plan, which is currently in the stage of regional plan development.

Following discussion, Dave provided an overview of the Decision Item relating to amending Section 10 of the Mobilization Plan.

***Motion:*** Jim Broman moved and Dean Hosni seconded to approve the revision to Section 10 of the Mobilization Plan.

***Motion passes. Unanimous***

#### **State Fire Marshal Qualifications ~**

Following considerable discussion, a list of desired qualifications, traits, knowledge, abilities and experience was developed.

***Motion:*** Jim Broman moved and Joe Coultman seconded to forward the list of qualifications to Chief Batiste.

***Motion passes. Unanimous***

#### **State Fire Marshal Report ~**

Following discussion of fire deaths, Acting State Fire Marshal advised that the Bureau is intending to take a pro-active effort to develop a public education program, which will include a media blitz targeting the principal areas of fatalities (King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties) and will be directed towards the approach of personal accountability. Jim Broman suggested that Mike engage the fire service in this effort.

Mike provided a legislative update on bills dealing with flame retardants, fire safe cigarettes and pension issues, and provided an overview of the following trial balloons (very brief description of budget decision packages) that the Bureau will put forth:

- FTA Upgrades
- Wildland Fire Recovery Fund
- Recruitment and retention issues regarding retirement systems
- Language change regarding insurance laws transistioning to the State Fire Marshal's Office.

Mike advised that the Mobilization Division is working with WSAFC to increase NFIRS reporting and has also distributed an informational brochure to all fire chiefs advising of them of their responsibilities regarding inspection of PBX systems in schools.

In his report on the Training Division, Mike advised that:

- The FTA has developed a 190 hour Basic Firefighter School, which will be pilot tested on the weekends at the FTA;
- He has been contacted by the University of Washington's Marketing Program, who are interested in using the FTA for a marketing project; and
- The \$20,000 upgrade of the FTA dorms (replacement of bunks, mattresses and carpet) has been completed.

Additionally, Mike advised that Recruit School 2006-01 has begun, and requested that Ellen notify the Fire Protection Policy Board members of the date of the graduation for this Recruit School.

In discussion on the draft Fire Investigation Plan, Mike asked the Board to consider strategies on how to best carry the proposal forward.

Following discussion with Mark Kahley regarding a conference in Orlando that stresses the importance of fire incident reporting, Mike advised that he will follow up with Melissa to verify that DNR is submitting their fire data, and will report back to Mark.

### **Basic Firefighter Training Program ~**

Chuck King distributed a handout detailing the enrollment of the Basic Firefighter Training Program, which also provided a comparison of data on a yearly and monthly basis. The handout also indicated how many new departments have joined the program and how many new contracts have been received. In discussion on the data relating to the breakdown of career, volunteer and mixed departments, Jim Broman suggested that it may be beneficial to include comparison information detailing how many career, volunteer and mixed departments there are in the state.

Chuck advised that in January, \$252,825 was encumbered in new contracts. This amount is \$40,000 over the average for the new biennium. This biennium \$1,430,167 has been encumbered. The payout ratio for the 25 contracts closed out in January was 60%.

In discussion on the possibility of increasing the reimbursement rate, Mike advised that the best time to increase the reimbursement rate would be in preparation for the new biennium. Mike further suggested that the Fire Protection Policy Board develop a trial balloon requesting an increase of the hourly reimbursement rate for the 2007-09 biennium, and then request an increase in spending authority, commensurate with the rate per hour.

In further discussion regarding increasing the reimbursement rate, Jim Broman advised that he was more interested in adding additional elements into the program vs. increasing the hourly rate.

### **Prevention Division ~**

Assistant State Fire Marshal Anjela Foster provided an overview of the following recent activities in the Prevention Division:

- Stephen Myers, a Fire Protection Engineer from Texas was hired in the Chief Deputy position in the Licensing Section;
- There have been several high profile media releases in the last few weeks, including an article in the *Tacoma News Tribune* highlighting a sprinkler save, and an article featuring Larry Glenn and the Voluntary Sprinkler replacement Program in *USA Today*;

- There were 220 inspections and 28 plan review projects conducted in January;
- A \$1,000 fine was issued against a sprinkler contractor for violation of the Sprinkler Contractor's Law (RCW 18.160);
- The Prevention Division is partnering with the Fire Training Academy to provide International Code Council training;
- In discussion on the upcoming Regional Council Contracts Anjela advised that the Board may want to require that funds be directed to sharing messages regarding decreasing fire fatalities as an objective in the contracts, and
- Anjela advised that she will be sending forth the following Trial Balloons:
  - Funding for hospital inspections
  - LEOFF Retirement for recruitment and retention purposes
  - Insurance Statute – including fire authorities in setting rates.

### **Training Committee~**

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Chuck King distributed a copy of the strategic goals developed by the Washington State Fire Service Training and Education Advisory Committee and advised that the Committee will be forwarding the revised Strategic Plan, which combines strategies, in the next few months.

### **Fire Investigation Task Force ~**

In discussion regarding how to proceed with moving the plan forward from the Fire Protection Policy Board, it was suggested that it would be helpful to have statistics available for review at the April Work Session, including information on which counties have actual County Fire Marshals, the services they provide and their county population. Jim Broman suggested that the plan be presented to the major fire service organizations for their review and to provide the opportunity for a question/answer session to provide education and gain support. It was suggested that Anjela Foster or Dan Eikum be available to make presentations at board meetings and annual conference of the major fire service organizations.

Mike Matlick advised that the Fire Protection Bureau will develop a matrix for use in contacting the 39 counties for a phone survey, and will forward to the FPPB for their review and suggestions.

### **E-911 Committee~**

Joe Coultman provided an overview of the activities of the E-911 Committee and advised that the 211 helpline system will be coming on board at the end of the month, the committee is still looking at the issue of cell phones locking in emergency mode, and that the FCC continue work on the issue of global VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol)

### **SIEC ~**

No Report

### **Correspondence~**

The board acknowledged a letter received from Mister Richard Kistler, President of Washington Fire Commissioners Association, regarding the role of the Fire Protection Policy Board. Mr. Kistler's letter focused on recent discussions during Fire Leadership Forum meetings, questioning if the Fire Protection Policy Board was an advisory or policy board.

**Budget Education ~** Following discussion, Sharon requested that Mike arrange for Bob Maki to provide an overview of the Fire Protection Bureau's budget at the April Work Session.

**April Work Session** ~ As Wayne Wienholz will be providing a barbeque lunch for the Policy Board at the April 26 Work Session , the Work Session will be held at Lacey Fire District – Headquarters Station –Station 31, 1231 Franz Street SE; Lacey, WA.

- From **Interstate 5 Southbound**; exit # 109; right on Martin Way for one block to College Street; turn left on College Street.
- From **Interstate 5 Northbound**; exit # 108 (College Street); continue on exit road for .8 miles to College Street SE; turn right on College Street.
- South on College Street SE to Lacey Boulevard (about .5 mile).
- Turn left (east) on Lacey Blvd to Franz Street (about .5 mile).
- Turn left (north) on Franz Street and Lacey Fire District Headquarters will be one block ahead on your left.
- Parking is on the north side of the building as is the main entrance.

Next Meeting:

April 26, 2006 – Work Session

Lacey Fire District  
Headquarters – Station 31  
1231 Franz Street SE  
Lacey, WA

Approved:

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T.J. Nedrow, FPPB Chair (May 24, 2006)